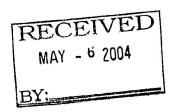
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May 4, 2004

Via Federal Express

Mr. Michael J. Beck Clerk of the Panel One Columbus Circle, NE Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building Room G-255, North Lobby Washington, D.C. 20002

Re: MDL 1486 -- In re Dynamic Random Access Memory (DRAM)
Antitrust Litigation - Notice of Tag-Along Action

Dear Mr. Beck:

In accordance with your October 16, 2002 letter to counsel in the above matter, Hynix Semiconductor America, Inc. ("HSA") hereby notifies the Clerk of the Panel of the following potential tag-along action, pursuant to Rule 7.5(e) of the Rules of Procedure of the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation. The potential tag-along action, Thompson v. Micron Technology, Inc. et al., Case No. 04-0423-A, was originally filed in Massachusetts state court, and was removed to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts on April 16, 2004, and assigned Case No. 04-10778-JLT (D. Mass.). A copy of the Notice of Removal, which includes a copy of the original complaint, is enclosed as Exhibit A hereto. This action involves common questions of fact with MDL 1486 and multiple common defendants. HSA requests that the tag-along procedures be utilized to transfer this action to the transferee district, the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, In re Dynamic Random Access

Mr. Michael J. Beck May 4, 2004 Page 2

Memory (DRAM) Antitrust Litigation, Master File No. M-02-1486-PJH. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Albert J. Bóro, Jr.

Enclosure

cc: See attached mailing lists

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Page 4 of 27

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IN RE DRAM ANTITRUST LITIGATION SERVICE LIST

Master File No. M-02-1486 PJH, MDL No. 1486

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MIDDLESEX, SS

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

00 - 012

MICHAEL GERMANO, On Behalf Of Himself And All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

Plainill

VS.

MICROSOFT CORPORATION

Defendant.

COPY

Civil Action No.:

Individual and Representative Michael Germano, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, alleges as follows:

I. NATURE OF THIS ACTION

1. Plaintiff brings this Class Action on behalf of himself and all other residents of Massachusetts similarly situated, as members of a Plaintiff consumer or end-user class of direct and indirect purchasers of a Windows 95 or a Windows 98 PC operating system as set forth below in ¶9. Plaintiff seeks relief from Defendant for restraint of trade in violation of Massachusetts common law.

II. DEFINITIONS

2. As used herein, a "PC operating system" is an Intel 80x86/Pentium compatible personal computer ("PC") software program that controls the allocation and use of computer resources such as central processing unit time, main memory space, disk space and input/output channels. A PC operating system also supports the functions of software programs, called "applications," that perform specific user-oriented tasks. The PC operating system supports the

functions of applications by exposing interfaces, called "application programming interfaces," or "APIs." APIs are synapses at which the developer of an application can connect to invoke pre-fabricated blocks of code in the operating system. These blocks of code in turn perform crucial tasks, such as displaying text on the computer screen. Because it supports applications while interacting more closely with the PC system's hardware, an operating system is said to serve as a "platform." An operating system designed to run on an Intel-compatible PC will not function on a non-Intel-compatible PC, nor will an operating system designed for a non-Intel-compatible PC function on an Intel-compatible one. Similarly, an application that relies on APIs specific to one operating system will not, generally speaking, function on another operating system unless the application is first adapted, or "ported," to the APIs of the other operating system.

- 3. As used herein, "Windows" is a graphic user interface PC operating system manufactured by Microsoft which is licensed to consumers and PC manufacturers (known as "original equipment manufacturers" or "OEMs"). OEMs typically install Windows onto their PCs before selling the package to consumers. Windows 95 was introduced in 1995, and Windows 98 was introduced in June, 1998.
- 4. As used herein, "Internet Explorer" is a type or brand of "web browser," a software tool manufactured by Microsoft for navigating and performing numerous functions related to the "Internet." The Internet, in turn, is a global electronic network which allows millions of computers to exchange information by linking PCs by various modalities and its "World Wide Web," a collection of digital information resources stored on computers throughout the Internet.

:

III. PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff, Michael Germano, is a resident of Wilmington, Middlesex County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, who purchased in Massachusetts, for his own use and not for resale, a Windows 95 PC operating system. The Plaintiff brings this action in his individual and representative capacity on behalf of the Plaintiff class alleged herein. The amount in controversy as to Plaintiff Germano individually or as to any individual member of the proposed class does not exceed \$75,000, however calculated.
- 6. Defendant, Microsoft Corporation, ("Microsoft") is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Washington. Microsoft has facilities and personnel and transacts substantial business in Massachusetts, including the sale or licensing of Windows.
- 7. The acts charged in this Complaint as having been done by Defendant were authorized, ordered, or done by its officers, agents, employees, or representatives, while actively engaged in the management of Defendant's business or affairs. Whenever any reference is made in this Complaint to Microsoft or to Defendant, such reference shall be deemed to include predecessors, successors, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and divisions of that corporation.
- 8. Various other persons, entities, companies and corporations, the identities of which are presently unknown, and which are not named as Defendants herein, have participated as co-conspirators with Defendants in the violations alleged herein, and have performed acts and made statements in the United States and elsewhere, in furtherance thereof.

IV. CLASS ALLEGATIONS

9. Plaintiff brings this action as a class action on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated pursuant to Rule 23 of the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure. The class is defined and described as follows:

All persons who purchased, leased or licensed Windows or Internet Explorer, in Massachusetts for their own use and not for resale. As used in this definition of the class, the term "persons" refers to individuals who resided in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at the time of their purchase(s), excluding persons employed with the Defendant and/or its co-conspirators.

- 10. This action seeks recovery only for economic injuries suffered by all members of the class and is expressly not intended to request any recovery for personal injury.
- 11. Plaintiff does not know the exact size of the class. However, based upon the nature of trade and commerce involved. Plaintiff believes that the total number of class members is in the tens of thousands, and that members of the class are geographically dispersed throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Therefore, joinder of all members of the class is not practicable.
- There are questions of law and fact common to the class, including, but not 12. limited to:
 - the existence, duration, and illegality of the restrictions, limitations a. obligations, combinations, agreements trusts, and course of conduct alleged herein;
 - the existence, duration, and illegality of the lease, sale or license of b. Windows or Internet Explorer and conditions thereon and course of conduct alleged herein;
 - whether the Plaintiff and the other members of the class were injured by C. Defendant's conduct and, if so, the appropriate class-wide measure of damages;

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- đ. whether the Defendant engaged in unfair or deceptive acts or practices in trade or commerce with regard to the lease, sale or license of Windows or Internet Explorer within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; and
- whether Defendant's conduct was an unlawful restraint of trade in e, violation of Massachusetts common law.
- These and other questions of law and fact are common to the class and 13. predominate over any question affecting only individual members of the class.
- 14. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of all members of the class, in that Plaintiff was a purchaser of Windows no different from any other class member, and the relief sought is common to the class.
- 15. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent the interests of the class, in that the Plaintiff is typical of purchasers of Windows and has no conflicts with any other members of the class. Furthermore, Plaintiff has retained competent counsel experienced in class action and consumer protection litigation.
- 16. This class action is superior to the alternatives, if any, for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy because:
 - it will avoid a multiplicity of suits and consequent burden on the courts and Defendant:
 - it would be virtually impossible for all class members to intervene as b. parties-plaintiff in this action;
 - it will provide court oversight of the claims process, once Defendant's C. liability is adjudicated;
 - it will allow numerous individuals with claims too small to adjudicate on đ. an individual basis because of the prohibitive cost of individual litigation, to obtain redress for their injuries; and

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this class action is appropriate for treatment on a fluid recovery basis, C. which will obviate any manageability problems.

V. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL CLAIMS.

- In 1981, Microsoft released the first version of its Microsoft Disk Operating 17. System, commonly known as "MS-DOS." The system had a character-based user interface that required the user to type specific instructions at a command prompt in order to perform tasks such as launching applications and copying files. When the International Business Machines Corporation ("IBM") selected MS-DOS for pre-installation on its first generation of PCs, Microsoft's product became the predominant operating system sold for Intel-compatible PCs.
- 18. In 1985, Microsoft began shipping a software package called Windows. The product included a geographical user interface, which enabled users to perform tasks by selecting icons and words on the screen using a mouse. Although originally just a user-interface, or "shell," sitting on top of MS-DOS, Windows took on more operating-system functionality over time and evolved into the dominant PC operating system for Intel-compatible PCs.
- 19. In 1995, Microsoft introduced a software package called Windows 95, which announced itself as the first operating system for Intel-compatible PCs that exhibited the same sort of integrated features as the MacIntosh operating system running PCs manufactured by Apple Computer, Inc. ("Apple"). Windows 95 enjoyed unprecedented popularity with consumers, and in June 1998, Microsoft released its successor, Windows 98.
- 20. Microsoft licenses copies of its software program directly to consumers. The largest part of its MS-DOS and Windows sales, however, consists of licensing the products to manufacturers of PCs (known as "original equipment manufacturers" or "OEMs"), such as IBM

and the Compaq Computer Corporation ("Compaq"). An OEM typically installs a copy of Windows onto one of its PCs before selling the package to a consumer under a single price. Due to competition among OEMs, OEMs are required to sell PCs with Windows pre-installed. As the sole licensor of Windows, Microsoft enjoys vast powers over OEMs which it can and does use to stifle competition.

- 21. The Internet is a global electronic network, consisting of smaller interconnected networks, which allows millions of computers to exchange information over telephone wires, dedicated data cables, and wireless links. The Internet links PCs by means of servers, which run specialized operating systems and applications designed for servicing a network environment.
- The World Wide Web ("the Web") is a massive collection of digital information 22. resources stored on servers throughout the Internet. These resources are typically provided in the form of hypertext documents, commonly referred to as "Web pages," that may incorporate any combination of text, graphics, audio and video content, software programs, and other data. Some Web resources are in the form of applications that provide functionality through a user's PC system but actually execute on a server.
- Internet content providers ("ICPs") are the individuals and organizations that have 23. established a presence, or "site," on the Web by publishing a collection of Web pages. Most Web pages are in the form of "hypertext," that is, they contain annotated references, or "hyperlinks," to other Web pages. Hyperlinks can be used as cross-references within a single document, between documents on the same site, or between documents on different sites.
- Typically, one page on each Web site is the "home page," or the first access point 24. to the site. The home page is usually a hypertext document that presents an overview of the site

and hyperlinks to the other pages comprising the site.

- PCs typically connect to the Internet through the services of Internet access 25. providers ("IAPs"), which generally charge subscription fees to their customers in the United States. There are two types of IAPs. Online services ("OLSs") such as America Online ("AOL"), Prodigy, and the Microsoft Network ("MSN") offer, in addition to Internet access, various services and an array of proprietary content. Internet service providers ("ISPs") such as MindSpring and Netcom, on the other hand, offer few services apart from Internet access and relatively little of their own content.
- A "Web client" is software that, when running on a computer connected to the 26. Internet, sends information to and receives information from Web servers throughout the Internet. Web clients and servers transfer data using a standard known as the Hypertext Transfer Protocol ("HTTP"). A "Web browser" is a type of Web client that enables a user to select, retrieve, and perceive resources on the Web. In particular, Web browsers provide a way for a user to view hypertext documents and follow the hyperlinks that connect them, typically by moving the cursor over a link and depressing the mouse button.
- The first widely-popular graphical browser distributed for profit, called Navigator, 27. was brought to market by the Netscape Communications Corporation in December, 1994. Microsoft introduced its browser, called Internet Explorer, in July, 1995.
- Since the introduction of Windows, Microsoft has effectively eliminated the 28. competition in the operating system and shell markets. Currently there are no products, nor are there likely to be any in the near future, that a significant percentage of consumers could substitute for Intel-compatible PC operating systems without incurring substantial costs.

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Furthermore, no firm that does not currently market Intel-compatible PC operating systems could start doing so in a way that would, within a reasonably short period of time, present a significant percentage of consumers with a viable alternative to existing Intel-compatible PC operating systems. Therefore, one relevant market is the purchase, lease or licensing of all Intelcompatible PC operating systems.

- 29. Microsoft has used its market power to coerce OEMs and others into agreeing to restrictive and anticompetitive licensing terms for Windows operating systems.
- As internet usage grew, sales of web browsers also grew. Microsoft began to 30. realize that web browsers were maturing into an application delivery platform which posed a threat to its operating systems monopoly. Thereafter, Microsoft began using its monopoly power and its agreement with OEMs, IAPs, and others to stifle competition in the browser market in order to protect, maintain, and extend its operating system into the next generation of personal computing which had the effect of lessening competition and creating and extending a monopoly.
- Since the introduction of Internet Explorer, Microsoft has, by unlawful and 31. anticompetitive means, including the monopoly leveraging of its market power in the PC operating systems market, effectively eliminated competition in the web browser and related markets. Therefore, another relevant market is the purchase, lease, or licensing of web browsers.
- As a result of these acts and business practices, in or about May, 1998, the United 32. States Department of Justice ("DOJ") commenced an action for injunctive relief against Microsoft, alleging violations of the federal antitrust laws, specifically sections 1 and 2 of the Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 1 and 2).

- 33. The Attorney Generals of many states filed an additional lawsuit as a companion to the DOI action, and the two lawsuits were consolidated for trial.
- 34, After a lengthy trial, on or about November 5, 1999, in United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the Honorable Thomas Penfield Jackson issued comprehensive Findings of Fact in the above-referenced consolidated actions. Attached hereto and incorporated by reference as Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of said Findings of Fact, printed off the Department of Justice Web page.
- 35. Among the extensive findings of fact were findings to the effect that Microsoft had monopoly power and that Microsoft had abused its monopoly power through devices including agreements with OEMs, IAPs, and others to the detriment and harm of consumers.

VI. DAMAGES TO PLAINTIFF AND THE MEMBERS OF THE CLASS

36. As a direct and proximate result of the unlawful conduct of Defendant alleged hereinabove, Plaintiff and the members of the class were not able to purchase PC operating systems and/or web browsers at prices determined by free and open competition, and were injured in their business and property in that, inter alia, they paid more for Windows and/or the Internet Explorer than they would have paid in a free and open competitive market.

COUNT I

(Common Law Restraint of Trade)

37. Individual and Representative Plaintiff, on behalf of himself and the Class, realleges, as if fully set forth, each and every prior allegation contained herein and further alleges, as follows, against all Defendants:

- 38. The acts or practice of the Defendant as aforesaid constituted an unlawful contract, combination or conspiracy and a restraint of trade or commerce in violation of Massachusetts common law.
- The aforementioned combination, contract, arrangement and conspiracy consisted 39. of an agreement, arrangement and concert of action among Microsoft, OEMs, IAPs, and others, concerning the sale or distribution of Windows and web browsers sold in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Such combination, contract, arrangement and conspiracy had the effect, among others, of suppressing, restraining and eliminating competition for PC operating systems and web browsers in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
 - 40. As a proximate result of the unlawful conduct of the Defendant alleged herein:
- prices of Windows purchased by Plaintiff and other members of the class have been raised, fixed, maintained, and stabilized at artificial and non-competitive levels;
- b. competition in the sale of PC operating systems has been suppressed. restrained and eliminated; and
- C. competition in the sale of web browsers has been suppressed, retrained and eliminated.
- 41. By reason of the alleged restraint of trade, Plaintiff and class members have been injured and, under Massachusetts common law, are entitled to damages in an amount presently undetermined.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that:

- The Court adjudge and decree that the Plaintiff is a fair and adequate representative of the Class, as hereinabove defined, and that notice of this action be given to the class in the most effective practicable manner;
- The Court enter judgment for the Plaintiff on Count I of the Complaint b. (Massachusetts Common Law Restraint of Trade);
- Plaintiff and the class recover for damages, restitution, and disgorgement of ill-gotten gains as allowed by law and equity as determined to have been sustained by them, together with the costs of suit, including reasonable attorneys fees;
- The Defendant and its respective officers, directors, agents, and ď. employees, and all other persons acting or claiming to act on behalf of it or in concert with it, be perpetually enjoined and restrained from in any manner, directly or indirectly, continuing, maintaining, or renewing the unfair trade alleged herein; and
- The Court grant such other, further and different relief as may be deemed just and proper.

DATED: December 30, 1999

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